Memorandum

TO : W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 12/29/64

FROM : F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - J. F. Bland
1 - F. J. Baumgardner
1 - S. F. Phillips

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
INTERNAL SECURITY - COMMUNIST

INFORMANT

[redacted] has reported that Father Wassmer of the St. Peters Jesuit School in New Jersey recently contacted the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference at Atlanta, Georgia, which Conference is headed by Martin Luth King, Jr. Father Wassmer indicated that St. Peters wanted to give King an honorary degree on 6/6/65. King's secretary indicated to Father Wassmer that King would advise at a later date whether he could accept the degree.

OBSERVATIONS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/26/05 BY [illegible]

It will be recalled that we previously were able to alert proper authorities at Marquette University when that institution was considering King for an honorary degree. As a result of information furnished on a highly confidential basis concerning King, Marquette did not give King an honorary degree. It may be possible that similar action on our part in the current instance will avert the action which is contemplate by St. Peters Jesuit School.

RECOMMENDATION:

If approved, we will determine from our Newark Office what its relations are with the St. Peters Jesuit School and whether there is some individual there in high authority who co be confidentially briefed concerning King's [illegible] will not be given an honorary degree. Upon approval, this memorandum should be routed back to Assistant Director Sullivan for the necessary telephone call to the SAC, Newark, in this matter.

SFP:jad
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